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~~STATE DOCUMENTS.~~

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Greenville Editorial Decries State Museum Plan

We believe that the idea of a State Museum for South Carolina should be put to the test of public opinion and what better way could there be than through the news media. Recently the Greenville News wrote negatively about plans for the State Museum and without comment we are reproducing their editorial and all the responses we know of which subsequently appeared in their "Letters to the Editor" column.

State Can Do Without Museum

South Carolina's financial plight is well and painfully known to anybody who has taken even a cursory glance at the income-outgo figures in recent months. The state is in some danger of losing its cherished AAA credit rating—and will unless it tightens its governmental purse strings and keeps them tight in the months and years ahead.

It won't be easy. The state faces great demands for some necessary and many very desirable improvements which will cost money. Public education's needs require attention now. So do those of the badly overtaxed penal system. Mental health facilities are in need of more funds. The list of "must" and "semi-must" needs which cost money is lengthy and grows longer all the time.

The over-all need is to set realistic priorities—to draw the line between the real “musts” and the “almost musts” and set them clearly ahead of the “not-so-musts” and the “can-do-withouts.”

Some of the latter may be difficult to spot, but some are so obvious they stand out like sore thumbs. One is the proposed State Museum to be located in Columbia.

The idea of one state-financed museum for Columbia at the expense of a system of regional museums close to and more readily available to all South Carolinians is questionable in the best of times. But to pay for planning for such a thing in times like these is a sheer waste of money which should go elsewhere.

The State Museum Commission, which is planning and pushing the Columbia project, said in a recent bulletin: "We view the building of a State Museum facility to be located on the grounds of the current Columbia Museums of Arts and Science and to serve the state as a resource center in the areas of history, natural history, science and art to be essential."

Referring to the "fine museums" in other parts of the state, the commission said it would establish "a sharing relationship with them. . .that we will make available to the greatest extent possible any of the collections. . .that we will make available members of the. . .staff to serve as resource people and that we will investigate. . .other types of services and assistance. . ."

A better idea would be to develop a system of regional state museums, using existing facilities as foundation stones. But even that should await a return to more prosperous times.

The thing to do right now is to strip the Museum Commission's budget to the bare bones and use whatever money is saved for much more important purposes.

That is just one example—but an important one—of how to make “fiscal responsibility” more than a mere phrase.

State Museum a 'Must'

The Greenville News on November 24, ran an editorial entitled "State Can Do Without Museum."

The editorial starts by saying that we are in some danger of losing our AAA credit rating and that we need to carefully watch out spending. I agree. The article then states that public education needs attention. I agree.

The proposed museum should be viewed as an important educational resource. It will have a planetarium. It will have areas devoted to science, to archeology, to geology, to history and to art, the latter taking advantage of the art collection now owned by the Columbia Museum of Art.

There is no practical way to build separate museums in various parts of our state which will house all of these activities. The cost would be astronomical. The Museum Commission has publicly expressed the desire for a working and sharing relationship with all the museums of the state.

Columbia is the approximate geographical center of our state and the cornerstone of our thinking is that school children, who will make up the vast majority of those visiting the museum, will go there from all over our state to view these exhibits. This is now happening at other state museums throughout the country. The State Museum will also have programs which will reach out to citizens statewide.

Practically every state in the country has a state museum, South Carolina being one of the very few that does not. If we are to keep our historical treasures within our state, if we are to improve our education, and if we wish to attract new

industry, a State Museum is a "must."

Better education will mean higher payrolls.

Arthur Magill, Member
South Carolina Museum Commission
November 29, 1976

State Should Support Culture

Your editorial of November 24, "State Can Do Without Museum," takes a shortsighted and simplistic look at how South Carolina might balance its budget. It typifies the unfortunate attitude that cultural activities are of little value unless they are applicable to economic gain. Furthermore, the editorial implies that the worth of cultural institutions depends upon their practicality in a set of "realistic priorities."

It is a sad fact that these all-too-prevalent ideas contribute to an anti-intellectual climate in which low priorities are placed on the aesthetic values of knowledge, creativity and cultural institutions.

Museums, theaters, and libraries are not frills to be eliminated when the economy declines. They are essential if citizens are to lift themselves above the daily humdrum of their existence and achieve a broad, humanistic outlook on life and its meaning. State and local governments have a responsibility to improve the quality of citizens' minds as well as their living standards.

The state should recognize its responsibility to foster and encourage the products of human intellect as well as to maintain utilitarian agencies such as correctional and mental institutions. Perhaps more attention to cultural aspects of the lives of South Carolina citizens will help to decrease overflow conditions in our correctional and mental institutions. The circular relationship here should not be overlooked.

Art, music, literature, dance, theater, and other similar activities are as important to the wholeness of life as adequate transportation systems, sewage and water treatment facilities, and police agencies. In view of South Carolina's position as one of the thirteen original states, it is almost inconceivable that we do not already have a flourishing and adequately supported state museum. South Carolina has a long and illustrious history. Moreover, its cultural life, while not exemplary, has not been dormant.

Your editorial does not help to pave the way toward erasing cultural deficiencies. Neither does it help to overcome the narrow, utilitarian approach to culture that some of our elected officials have taken in recent years.

Charles H. Busha, PhD
Summit Drive—Liberty, S.C.
November 30, 1976

Editorial lacks farsightedness

Your editorial November 24, "State Can Do Without Museum" was disappointing in its lack of farsightedness on the part of one who is a leader in the Greenville community.

As a parent, I can, I think, speak with some authority about the value and influence of a high-quality museum on a child's growth and approach to life in general. Specifically, a good museum can go far in satisfying the natural curiosity of a

child; it can nurture her/his imagination; it can open wide the doors to learning far beyond that of the home and school (as important as these are); and, it can be an open-ended classroom (teaching constantly), theater (unfolding the drama of prehistory and history), laboratory (exploring and examining life itself—present and past); and arsenal (with weapons to fight the darkness of ignorance and apathy).

I believe that anyone who has seen even the faintest glimmer of just one of these facets of a museum would testify that they all are as basic to life as those subjects we call the "basics" of an education.

You wrote of "realistic priorities." What greater priority do we have than to strive to make a reality every possible means of stimulating our children to know how to live, not just how to earn a living? I despair of a life dedicated only to gaining the tangible means of sustaining that life; rather, I take heart in a life lived in a way that lasting values are sustained as well as one's physical well-being.

South Carolinians are a fortunate people in many ways: they have a beautiful state, and they are on the threshold of possible "greatness". It is my hope that they will have the vision to nurture their natural and human resources while accepting with grace and with hope the growth and potential development now in sight.

A State Museum is not only an exciting prospect, but it is a "must" if we are to enhance the facilities we already have.

Greenville County has had, in my 13 years as a resident, a history of taking a step forward, followed by steps backward, in education, government and many other areas. Let us not be a party to blocking the efforts of those who now foresee a state facility by which Greenville County, and all others in the state, will be richly rewarded.

Vauda B. Allmon
Greenville
December 8, 1976

WILLIAM L. ANDERSON

In Memorium



On Wednesday, February 2nd, 1977 the South Carolina Museum Commission lost a good friend and respected staff member when Bill Anderson died shortly after suffering a heart attack.

Bill was born in Herndon, Virginia in 1921 and attended VPI for his undergraduate degree. He became a pilot in the Air Force serving as a career officer during and after WW II, retiring in December of 1968 as a Lt. Colonel.

Bill, along with his wife, the former Mary Sanders of Highland Home, Alabama and their two daughters then moved to Columbia, South Carolina. He entered graduate school at the University of South Carolina and received his masters degree in art. During that time he was director of the Huntington Gallery of the University. Bill joined the staff of the South Carolina Museum Commission as deputy director in 1974. He served for two years as secretary of the S.C.

Federation of Museums and was known as a friend of museums not only in South Carolina but nationwide. His service as liaison between the Museum Commission and numerous State agencies was exemplary.

We know that all those who knew Bill Anderson join us in our sense of loss at his passing.



Mrs. Ridgway Hall Resigns

Mrs. Ridgway Hall, former S.C. Museum Commissioner, has returned to Connecticut. South Carolina, the City of Beaufort and particularly the S.C. Museum Commission, will miss the rich contributions of Lucy Hall. She brought an appreciation of the American cultural scene, a sensitive feeling for history and a sympathetic understanding of our southern traditions.

Her work with the Museum Commission began with the earliest architectural and exhibit planning. She has been an articulate critic, a gifted contributor and an enthusiastic supporter of the necessity for an adequate state museum. It is sufficient to say that Mrs. Hall is going to be sorely missed. We thank her for her efforts on behalf of the Museum Commission and wish her every happiness in her new home.



Two New Museum Commissioners Appointed

Ann Walker Guerard was born in Gulfport, Mississippi and lived there until she was eight years old. During the next ten years she lived in Charlotte, N.C., Columbia, S.C., Atlanta, Georgia and Birmingham, Alabama. She received her college education at the University of Alabama and the University of South Carolina where she met her husband Ted (Edward P. Guerard) who is an architect in Georgetown. As residents of Georgetown since 1958 the Guerards have been very active in community activities.

Mrs. Guerard states that her "most rewarding experience has been serving first on the Board of Directors during the organizational years at Winyah Academy, and then for the last eight years as Registrar and Business Manager." We are looking forward to working with Mrs. Guerard as a very active Commissioner.



Caroline S. Rainey has been involved in a wide-range of community activities in Anderson. She is a member of the Advisory Board of C&S Bank and has served as Secretary and Director of Kenneth Cotton Mills of Walhalla and the Pepsi-Cola Bottling Company of Spartanburg. Mrs. Rainey, a graduate of Randolph Macon Woman's College in Lynchburg, Virginia, was instrumental in establishment of the Anderson County Arts Council and has been active for the past five years in preservation and restoration work as a board member of Anderson Heritage, Inc.

We welcome Mrs. Rainey to the Commission and promise her plenty of hard work with no pay but with great rewards.

Commission To Consolidate Collection In New Quarters

The South Carolina Museum Commission has entered into an agreement with the Columbia Museum of Art Commission to occupy a building at 1132 Bull Street, adjacent to the Columbia Museums of Art and Science, for the primary purpose of storing the Museum Commission's collection of objects relating to the history, natural history, science and art of the State.

The collection, which has been accumulated over the past three years, is currently stored in a commercial warehouse, in the Commission's office and many of the objects are on loan to museums throughout the State.

Security and air conditioning are vital to proper storage of a museum collection and these will be achieved in proper measure in the 2400 square foot facility. In addition to storing the collection in the building the Commission anticipates using one section as an office for the Museum Liaison Person to be hired by March of 1977. Another section will be used to house the State Art Collection of the South Carolina Arts Commission. Under a cooperative arrangement with the Arts Commission scheduling of the 100 plus piece collection will be handled by the Museum Liaison Person.

Although the building will not be generally open to the public, the large front windows will be used to showcase the Museum Commission's collection, to inform the public about the purposes and operation of the Commission and about the urgent need for a State Museum facility.

The State Museum Commission sees this move as a positive step toward assuring potential donors that gifts to the South Carolina Museum Commission will be properly cared for.

Hedy Hartman Appointed



Hedy Hartman has been named Museum Liaison Person for the South Carolina Museum Commission and began her new duties on February 25, 1977.

Ms. Hartman received the Bachelor of Arts degree in Anthropology from the University of Pennsylvania, College for Women in May of 1975. She worked for about a year and a half as curatorial assistant in the department of ethnographic art of the Indianapolis Museum of Art in Indianapolis, Indiana. During that period, she was an instructor in the school of continuing education at the Indiana University-Purdue University Extension Program and an instructor at the Children's Museum of Indianapolis.

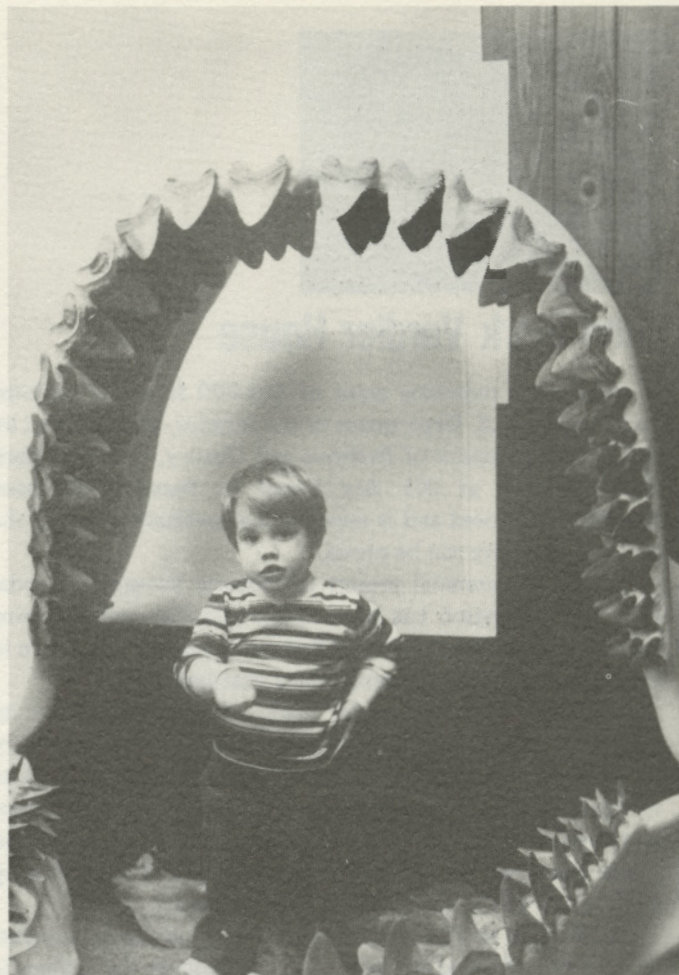
Ms. Hartman has had additional experience as gallery director for Rare Art, Inc. of New York City and has done extensive research work at the University of Pennsylvania Museum and at the American Museum of Natural History. She has written and been published on the topic of the Native Americans and has done a number of radio and TV appearances.

The museum liaison position was created through a grant from the National Endowment for the Arts for the primary purpose of developing stronger relationships between South Carolina Arts & Museums Commissions and the Museums throughout the State.

IRS Changes Affect Lobbying By Tax Exempt Organizations

"There has been significant change in the Internal Revenue Code relating to lobbying by tax exempt organizations as a result of the Tax Reform Act of 1976. The changes are effective for taxable years beginning after 1976."

Thus begins a paper commissioned by the Associated Councils of the Arts, the national service organization for state and community arts councils. This four page paper should be read by any 501(c)(3) organization which involves itself with any lobbying or "informational" effort at the national, state, county or city level. If you would like to have a copy of the paper at no charge, just drop us a line at the Museum Commission address and we'll send it along.



Quattlebaum Donates Jaws

An impressive replica of the jaws of a 50' to 60' giant white shark with real teeth from that animal has been given to the South Carolina Museum Commission by Wade Quattlebaum. Mr. Quattlebaum placed a value on the jaws at approximately \$15,000. The sharks' teeth have been accumulated by Quattlebaum and his crew over an extended period of time from their diving efforts in the Cooper River.

The teeth that the reconstruction is based on are from 1 3/4" to 4" in length from the tip to the base. As is true in sharks today, the teeth were routinely shed and replaced. Thousands of teeth are produced during a single sharks' lifetime. This is one of the reasons why fossilized sharks' teeth are so abundant.

This reconstruction is a valuable addition to the fossil collection of the SCMC.

COMMISSIONERS

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FROM

Columbia
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John Mark Verdier House

Aided by a matching grant of \$65,000 from the National Park Service, U.S. Department of the Interior, administered by the S.C. Department of Archives and History, the John Mark Verdier House at 801 Bay Street in Beaufort has been beautifully restored and is once more a landmark of which the entire community can be proud.

As the Bicentennial project of Historic Beaufort Foundation, the restoration has been in the planning and financing stage for several years. Actual work on the house was begun in September of 1965 and completed a year later.

Built circa 1795 by John Mark Verdier, a well to do merchant, the Adam style house has had a checkered history of gala occasions such as the visit of the Marquis de Lafayette in March of 1825 and degrading abuse when the ground floor was used as an ice house and the formal drawing room and parlor were used for the telephone exchange and a barber shop and the rest of the house cut up into tenements.

Condemned in 1942 it was rescued by a group of Beaufort citizens who formed a Committee to Preserve the Lafayette Building, as it was then known.

During the ensuing years several attempts at restoration were made, notably under the direction of the late Howard Danner in 1955. However after another twenty years of hard commercial use the building needed fundamental repairs. This time the house was taken down to the frame, jacked, leveled and structurally reinforced. The elaborate wood work, which has been for the most part removed, was carefully cleaned, repaired and put back in place.

The paint colors for the various rooms were determined after scraping as many as seven layers off the wood work.

Today only two rooms on the second floor remain unfinished. All the important rooms have been restored. The reception parlor has been furnished through an anonymous gift in honor of Mr. and Mrs. J. Riley Gettys in recognition of their outstanding contributions to Historic Preservation. The drawing room on the second floor was dedicated in 1970 to Howard Danner, the first President of Historic Beaufort Foundation.

Members of Historic Beaufort Foundation were afforded a preview of the house at their annual meeting on October 21, 1976. It was also a feature of the recent Fall Tour of the South Carolina Historical Society. For the present, it can be seen by appointment.

Early in 1977, the Foundation plans to open the house to the general public on a regular basis, providing guided tours for which a normal fee will be charged. For further information call 425-6334 or write Historic Beaufort Foundation, P.O. Box 11, Beaufort, S.C. 29902.

Drayton Hall

We thought you would be interested in knowing what's happening at Drayton Hall in Charleston. The following was sent to us by Dennis Lawson, Administrator of Drayton Hall for the National Trust for Historic Preservation.

"Drayton Hall is now open to the public under the following conditions: Effective immediately Drayton Hall is open to the public by reservation only. Conducted tours of the house will be given on Tuesdays, Thursdays and Sundays from 1-4:00 P.M. Reservations must be made 24 hours in advance and for Sundays by 4:00 P.M. on Fridays. The donation will be \$2.00 for adults, \$1.00 for students (high school, college and graduate school) and \$.75 for children. Members of the National Trust will receive complimentary admission although reservations are required. Group tours will be conducted by special arrangement. For reservations call 766-0118."

Museum Happenings

HISTORIC CHARLESTON FOUNDATION Charleston

March 17-April 11

Seven different walking tours of more than 80 historic private homes and gardens.

COLUMBIA MUSEUM OF ART & SCIENCE Columbia

March 5-April 24

Planetarium Show: Terra Plus 2

March 20-April 24

27th Annual Artists Guild of Columbia

March 27-April 10

Bohemian Crystal and Czech Artifacts

April (tentative)

Jewelry by Deborah Cobb and Mike French

April 1-25

Marietta Crafts National

April 17 - 3:00 P.M.

Classical Guitar Quartet

April 21

Independent American Filmmakers: Southern Circuit 1977

April 30-May 29

Planetarium Show: Star Show

May 1-31

Dr Drawings by Alan Davis

May 1-29

Watercolors by Steven A. Jordan

Photography by Greenville Seibels

May 8-15

Richland Art School's "Festival of Talents"

May 10-June 5

Post Cubism by Francois Jacquemin

FLORENCE MUSEUM Florence

South Carolina
Museum Commission
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Columbia, S. C. 29211

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April

Persian Prints by Sallie Frost Knerr

May

Annual Pee Dee Regional Art Exhibition. This competition is open to all interested artists in the Pee Dee area.

GREENVILLE COUNTY MUSEUM OF ART

Greenville

March 6–April 2

Constantine Manos Photographs

April 6–30

National Sculpture 76

Second Annual Curator's Choice

April 6–May 1

Robert Mills Architecture

April 6

Semi-Permanent installation dealing with various facets of architecture to be used in conjunction with museum educational program on architecture.

April 20 – 8:00 P.M.

Independent American Filmmakers: Southern Circuit

May 4–29

Greenville Corporations Collect

14th Annual Piedmont Graphics Exhibition

May 4

Mini-Exhibitions

May 18 – 8:00 P.M.

Independent American Filmmakers: Southern Circuit

BOB JONES UNIVERSITY

Greenville – The Bob Jones University Collection of Sacred Art and Biblical Antiquities is open to the public without charge Tuesday through Sunday from 2 p.m. to 5 p.m. Special arrangements for group tours may be made with the secretary of the fine arts office.

CONFEDERATION OF S.C. LOCAL HISTORICAL SOCIETIES

S.C. Department of Archives & History
Greenwood

May 12, 13, 14

South Carolina Landmark Conference

KINGS MOUNTAIN NATIONAL MILITARY PARK Kings Creek

October thru May 29 – open 9:00 A.M. to 5:00 P.M.
daily

May 30 thru September 30 – open 9:00 A.M. to 6:00 P.M.

A 20 Minute film "Kings Mountain: Turning Point in the South." interprets the battle fought October 7, 1780

MUSEUM OF YORK COUNTY

Rock Hill

April

Gallery Show: Vernon Grant

May–June

Gallery Show: A collection of clothing and quilts from the past hundred years

Live Animal Center and Serpenterium to open in January

Children's Petting Zoo opens in April

Children's Winter Film Series each Saturday morning in February and March

WINTHROP GALLERY OF ART

Winthrop College – Rock Hill

March 13–April 17

Invitational Textile Exhibition

THE GALLERY

Spartanburg

March 19–April 15

Francois Jacquemen, Neo-Cubist paintings by the Parisian Artist

April 23–May 22

Tin Yum Lau, serigraphs and etchings by the Toronto Artist

SUMTER GALLERY OF ART

Sumter

April 3–24

Annual Young People's Exhibit